



1. GOALS AND POLICIES

Army Environmental Vision Statement

The Army will be a national leader in environmental and natural resource stewardship for present and future generations as an integral part of our mission.²

The Army's commitment to natural resources management is reflected in the U.S. Army Environmental Strategy into the 21st Century. The Army environmental strategy is depicted as a building established on a solid foundation with four pillars supporting the environmental stewardship vision and the Army mission (Figure 1). The four pillars symbolize the Army environmental program and represent the four major areas of activity. The conservation pillar focuses on responsibly managing Army lands to ensure long-term natural resource productivity so the Army can achieve its mission.

The Army's commitment to natural resources management is emphasized in Army Regulation 200-3 (*Natural Resources - Land, Forest, and Wildlife Management*), which requires that Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMP) be developed and maintained for all Army installations.

This INRMP is a tool to help natural resources personnel implement ecosystem management at Fort Wainwright. The INRMP looks at how Fort Wainwright's natural resources program integrates with other programs such as military activities, the

²Army Environmental Policy Institute. 1992. *U.S. Army Environmental Strategy into the 21st Century*. U.S. Government Printing Office 1993-747-677, 38 p.

environmental program as a whole, outdoor recreation, the National Environmental Policy Act, cultural resources, surrounding communities, and neighboring lands. The Environmental Assessment for implementation of this plan is located in Appendix 1. It is also a source of information for responsible or interested parties that are not directly managing Fort Wainwright's natural resources.

Over the next five years this document and the programs outlined here will be refined, changed, completed, or deleted as the situation warrants. Ecosystem management is still an evolving management scheme. As new information and ideas are gleaned from current research, Fort Wainwright's management will also change to reflect the best information available. However, the main goal of this INRMP is to support USARAK military and non-military activities while maintaining a functional, healthy ecosystem.

The following general goals reflect USARAK's commitment to manage natural resources at Fort

Wainwright. Chapters 12-19 contain both general and specific objectives to attain these goals.

Military Readiness. Provide quality natural resources, as they are critical training assets for accomplishing the military mission of Fort Wainwright.

Stewardship. Manage natural resources at Fort Wainwright to ensure good stewardship of public lands that are entrusted to the Army's care.

Quality of Life. Improve the quality of life for the Fort Wainwright community and the general public through development of high quality natural resources-based recreational opportunities.

Compliance. Comply with laws and regulations that pertain to management of Fort Wainwright's natural resources.

Integration. Integrate elements of natural resources management into a single program that, in turn, will be integrated into Fort Wainwright's environmental and military training programs.